

No. 24 – Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water management (IRWM) region was granted conditional acceptance in the 2009 Region Acceptance Process. The conditions were as follows: (1) to explore options with neighboring IRWM regions, including the Kern IRWM region, on how to best structure the regional boundaries in the area; (2) to consider incorporation of several existing gap areas into an IRWM region; and (3) to continue coordination efforts with surrounding IRWM regions.

The Poso Creek Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) has continued in its efforts to coordinate with the overlapping Kern IRWM region. To formalize coordination with the Kern IRWM region, the Poso Creek RWMG has added a non-voting member to the governance MOU specifically for a Kern representative. Although both the Poso Creek and Kern RWMGs have identified common projects in each respective IRWMP, the Poso Creek RWMG acknowledges the need for and commits to continued coordination on their grant applications to avoid duplicate project submittals. Additional ongoing coordination is realized by commitments by the RWMG to send representatives to Kern IRWM meetings.

The RWMG has selected a Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) representative for the Group of Four Cities and the signing of the MOU by the DAC representative is expected to be imminent. The RWMG will not be requiring financial support for IRWM Plan administration by the DAC representative, but the DACs will be expected to provide support for sponsored implementation projects. The DAC representative is choosing to remain active with both groups.

The IRWM boundary has been modified slightly in coordination with the Southern Sierra and Tule IRWM regions to correspond to Township and Range section boundaries rather than elevation contours, which has resulted in the inclusion of small gap areas.

Interview Conclusions - Approved

The RWMG has shown adequate progress toward resolving conditional acceptance criteria applied in the 2009 RAP. The RWMG is encouraged to continue to seek cooperation and coordination with neighboring IRWM regions to ensure that IRWM planning and implementations efforts progress in a complementary and coordinated manner.